

Many eminent scholars and men of science and university teachers of all grades and in all faculties are being obliged to relinquish their posts in the universities of Germany.

The universities of our own and other countries will, we hope, take whatever action they can to offer employment to these men and women, as teachers and investigators. But the financial resources of universities are limited and are subject to claims for their normal development which can not be ignored. If the information before us is correct, effective help from outside for more than a small fraction of the teachers now likely to be condemned to want and idleness will depend on the existence of large funds specifically devoted to this purpose. It seems clear also that some organization will be needed to act as a center of information and put the teachers concerned into touch with the institutions that can best help them.

We have formed ourselves accordingly into a provisional council for these two purposes. We shall seek to raise a fund, to be used primarily, though not exclusively, in providing maintenance for displaced teachers and investigators, and finding them the chance of work in universities and scientific institutions.

We shall place ourselves in communication both with universities in this country and with organizations which are being formed for similar purposes in other countries, and we shall seek to provide a clearing house and center of information for those who can take any kind of action directed to the same end. We welcome offers of co-operation from all quarters. We appeal for generous help from all who are concerned for academic freedom and the security of learning. We ask for means to prevent the waste of exceptional abilities exceptionally trained.

The issue raised at the moment is not a Jewish one alone; many who have suffered or are threatened have no Jewish connection. The issue, though raised acutely at the moment in Germany, is not confined to that country. We should like to regard any funds entrusted to us as available for university teachers and investigators of whatever country who, on grounds of religion, political opinion or race, are unable to carry on their work in their own country.

The Royal Society have placed office accommodation at the disposal of the council. Sir William Beveridge and Professor C. S. Gibson, F.R.S., are acting as Honorary Secretaries of the Council, and communications should be sent to them at the Royal Society, Burlington House, W.1. An executive committee is being formed and the names of trustees for the fund will shortly be announced. In the meantime checks can be sent to either of the honorary secretaries.

Our action implies no unfriendly feelings to the people of any country; it implies no judgment on forms of government or on any political issue between countries. Our only aims are the relief of suffering and the defense of learning and science.

LASCELLES ABERCROMBIE, S. ALEXANDER, W. H. BEVERIDGE, W. H. BRAGG, BUCKMASTER, CECIL, CRAWFORD & BALCARRES, WINIFRED C. CULLIS, H. A. L. FISHER,

MARGERY FRY, C. S. GIBSON, M. GREENWOOD, J. S. HALDANE, A. V. HILL, GEORGE F. HILL, W. S. HOLDSWORTH, F. GOWLAND HOPKINS, A. E. HOUSMAN, J. C. IRVINE, F. G. KENYON, J. M. KEYNES, A. D. LINDSAY, LYTTON, J. W. MACKAIL, ALLEN MAWER, GILBERT MURRAY, EUSTACE PERCY, W. J. POPE, ROBERT S. RAIT, RAYLEIGH, CHARLES GRANT ROBERTSON, ROBERT ROBINSON, RUTHERFORD, MICHAEL E. SADLER, ARTHUR SCHUSTER, C. S. SHERRINGTON, GEORGE ADAM SMITH, G. ELLIOT SMITH, J. C. STAMP, J. J. THOMSON, G. M. TREVELYAN.

HONORARY DEGREES CONFERRED AT YALE UNIVERSITY

DEGREES conferred in the sciences by Yale University on June 21 included the doctorate of science on Dr. Ernest William Brown, Josiah Willard Gibbs professor of mathematics emeritus at the university, and on Dr. Alfred Newton Richards, professor of pharmacology at the University of Pennsylvania. The doctorate of laws was conferred on Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Surgeon-General of the United States. The degree of master of science was conferred on Dr. William Bosworth Castle, assistant professor of medicine, Thorndike Memorial Foundation, and Boston City Hospital; on Lincoln Ellsworth, New York City, explorer, and on Dr. Alfred Lee Loomis, physicist, director of the Loomis Laboratories.

Candidates for the honorary degrees were cited by Professor William Lyon Phelps, while the degrees were conferred by Dr. Angell.

The citations made in conferring the degrees on Professor Brown, Professor Richards and Surgeon-General Cumming were as follows:

ALFRED NEWTON RICHARDS, SC.D.

Professor Phelps: Professor of pharmacology, University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Richards took his B.A. and M.A. at Yale, and began his career in the Sheffield Scientific School Laboratory of Professor Chittenden. Then he taught at Columbia, later at Northwestern, and in 1910 was made professor at Pennsylvania. During the World War he was attached to the staff of the British Medical Research Committee. In connection with the wide-spread studies of shock he made outstanding observations regarding the occurrence of histamine in minute quantities in the organism and its relation to the behavior of the blood vessels. More recently he has highly developed a unique field of research in regard to kidney function. He has trained many competent investigators, the publications coming from his laboratory being highly important. For many years he has been a guiding influence in the development of academic medicine in Philadelphia. Here is a man whose researches have added to organized knowledge and to the welfare of mankind.

Dr. Angell: Distinguished investigator in a most difficult and important field, inventor therein of delicate and invaluable techniques, a recognized leader in your special department of research, your *alma mater*, proud of your accomplishments, confers upon you the degree of Doctor of Science and admits you to all its rights and privileges.

ERNEST WILLIAM BROWN, SC.D.

Professor Phelps: Professor Brown was born at Hull, England, and received in 1887 his B.A. degree at Christ's College, Cambridge, where two centuries earlier an English poet paid a compliment to Galileo. Professor Brown has won many prizes and is a member of learned societies in America and abroad. In 1891 he became professor of mathematics at Haverford, where he remained until 1907, when he was called to Yale. He became professor emeritus in 1932. His publications on lunar theory and celestial mechanics have given him an international reputation and have added to the glory of Yale. His *Tables on the Motion of the Moon* is a monumental work and has brought him a blizzard of degrees, medals, prizes and honors. He is an excellent chess player and an amateur humorist of high reputation. In his youth he expected to be a concert pianist, but later took up the music of the spheres. His versatility is additionally shown in that, although he is a specialist on the moon, in the year 1925 in the city of New Haven he arranged a personally conducted total eclipse of the sun.

Dr. Angell: In grateful and affectionate acknowledgment of the luster shed upon her by your brilliant scientific achievement during a long and distinguished service on her faculty, Yale University gladly confers upon you the degree of Doctor of Science, admitting you to all its rights and privileges.

HUGH SMITH CUMMING, LL.D.

Professor Phelps: Born in Virginia, taking his degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Virginia, Dr. Cumming was appointed Assistant Surgeon in the United States Public Health Service in 1894, and became Surgeon-General in 1920. In earlier years he made creditable contributions in the field of public health research, particularly in regard to the sanitary conditions of the shell-fish industry, but his finest achievements have been during the last thirteen years, in the administration of Public Health Service. When he took control it was a rather undistinguished organization; he gradually transformed it into an institution of which our country is proud, an institution equalled perhaps in no other country except England. Benchwarmers have been progressively lifted and their places taken by able investigators, with the result that during the last five or six years substantial and far-reaching contributions have been made in the study of such nutritional diseases as beriberi, in the investigation of tularemia, Rocky Mountain spotted fever and endemic typhus; in studies on silicosis, and other aspects of industrial hygiene; also in the field of pure science, where researches in the chemical composition of sugars have attracted attention. All these tech-

nical remarks simply mean that Dr. Cumming is a first-rate citizen.

Dr. Angell: Eminent representative of a noble profession, essential architect and builder of the Public Health Service of the United States, everywhere recognized as one of the most beneficent of all agencies dedicated to the public weal, in grateful recognition of the intelligence, devotion and skill which you have brought to your duties, Yale University confers upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws, admitting you to all its rights and privileges.

THE CHICAGO MEETING

THE notable meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the associated societies, which opened in Chicago on June 19 and continues to June 30, will be fully reported in SCIENCE. The meeting was held on the invitation of the Century of Progress Exposition, which, together with the American Association, invited as guests a number of the most distinguished foreign men of science. Those who accepted the invitation and took part in the general sessions and conferences are the following:

OTTO APPEL, Agriculture, Berlin
 F. W. ASTON, Chemistry, Cambridge
 JOSEPH BARCROFT, Physiology, Cambridge
 A. MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLODY, Political Science, Hamburg
 JAKOB BJERKNES, Meteorology, Bergen
 NIELS BOHR, Physics, Copenhagen
 FILIPPO BOTTAZZI, Physiology, Naples
 LUDWIG DIELS, Botany, Berlin
 JEAN DUFRÉNOY, Agriculture, France
 LEOPOLD FEJÉR, Mathematics, Budapest
 ENRICO FERMI, Physics, Rome
 A. P. M. FLEMING, Engineering, Manchester
 R. GOLDSCHMIDT, Zoology, Berlin
 HERBERT J. GOUGH, Engineering, London
 SIR DANIEL HALL, Agriculture, London
 A. V. HILL, Physiology, London
 C. U. A. KAPPERS, Anthropology and Physiology, Amsterdam
 WOLFGANG KOEHLER, Psychology, Berlin
 AUGUST KROGH, Zoology, Copenhagen
 TULLIO LEVI-CIVITA, Mathematics, Rome
 EMILIO MIRA, Psychology, Barcelona
 WILLIAM OUALID, Political Economy, Paris
 HENRI PIERON, Psychology, Paris
 J. J. SEDERHOLM, Geology, Helsingfors
 CHARLES E. SPEARMAN, Psychology, London
 T. SVEDBERG, Chemistry, Upsala
 R. J. TILLYARD, Entomology and Paleontology, Australia

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. HARVEY CUSHING, who recently retired as Moseley professor of surgery at Harvard University and surgeon-in-chief at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, has been appointed first Sterling professor of

neurology at Yale University. The chair has been founded through a gift of \$300,000 from the estate of John W. Sterling.

DR. JAMES FRANCK, professor of physics at the